

GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH

ABSTRACT

Integrated Child Development Scheme (ICDS) – Convergence of AWCs with the Rural Development department's community based initiatives in Nutrition and Pre-school centres, for strengthening Anganwadi centres in disadvantaged localities, for universalisation of ICDS with quality – regarding.

DEPARTMENT FOR WOMEN, CHILDREN, DISABLED & SENIOR CITIZENS

G.O. Ms. No.55

Dated:16-11-2010.

Read the following:-

1. Prime Minister's letter dated:January, 9 2007 addressed to Chief Minister, Govt. of Andhra Pradesh expressing concerns on qualitative aspects of ICDS programme, calling for universalisation of ICDS with quality.
2. Stakeholders meetings during field visits and Convergence meetings of Spl. CS, WCD&SC, Prl. Secy., RD, CEO, SERP and Director, WD & CW and AWW's Associations held on 2-09-2010, 13-09-2010 and 25-09-2010.

ORDER :

Integrated Child Development Scheme (ICDS) which has the unique distinction of being the largest Human Resource Development Programme in the world, has been started with the primary purpose of delivering nutrition, health & preschool support for holistic child development. Since 1975, about 80423 Anganwadi centers have been established. Although, there has been some improvement in the nutritional, health and educational status of children in 0-6 age group in the vulnerable sections of the society., much more needs to be done.

2. Society for Elimination of Rural Poverty (SERP), established by Rural Development department, Government of AP, has been pioneering pro-poor interventions on demand from and in partnership with SHGs. Accordingly, childhood education centers (ECEs) for children aged 3 -6 years and nutrition centers for the pregnant/nursing mothers (called as Nutrition cum Day Care Centres (NDCC) through the Village Organisation of SHGs were started, which have achieved appreciable results. However, there has been demand from all quarters for convergence between such centres and AWC's to strengthen the AWCs in delivering the services, to benefit all stake holders. Spl. CS, WCD&SC, Principal Secretary, Rural Development, CEO, SERP and Director, WD & CW after inspecting these centres in the field and in consultation with all stakeholders including AWW's associations, have evolved a convergence model for integrating efforts of both these institutions to improve the service delivery further.

3. Government, after careful consideration approve the proposal for converging the efforts of the Anganwadi centers on one hand and community-based Nutrition cum Day Care Centres (NDCC) and Community Managed ECE centres on other - in backward habitations covering tribal villages, fishermen habitations & SC localities. Under this convergence, community represented by the Village Organisation of SHGs will set up and operate a nutrition centre as adjunct to the Anganwadi and operate pre-school within the AWC. This convergence shall be operationalised in the following manner:

a) Nutrition:

- i. A Community managed and community funded centre will be started for providing full nutrition consisting of breakfast, lunch and dinner to all the

- pregnant/nursing mothers who are members of SHGs and children below 3 years. The supplementary nutrition (presently being given as take-home ration under ICDS) will be cooked and served in the centre itself as part of the full nutrition or budget provided to the VO's concerned.
- ii. In order to conduct the centre, accommodation will be provided next to (or attached to) AWC by RD Department through the Village Organisation of SHGs (VO).
 - iii. Funds for a cook will be provided through VO. If the existing Anganwadi Helper is willing to discharge this function and if she is physically fit, first chance will be given to her to work as cook.
 - iv. The identification, training, equipping, monitoring, of the feeding programme and payment of wages will be done by the VO. SERP will provide funds directly to the VO towards corpus for nutrition component. VO is responsible for management of the Fund.
 - v. Staff of WD & CW Department shall not take up supervision and management of these community governed nutrition centres of the VOs.
 - vi. ASHA/Health Activist, AWW and ANM concerned will be jointly responsible for:-
 - a) Conducting nutrition and health education sessions for pregnant and nursing mothers enrolled,
 - b) Conducting activities with appropriate focus on ANC, PNC, neonatal care, child care and also control of communicable diseases.
 - c) Promotion of awareness for Prevention and early detection of disabilities and followup thereon.

b) Pre-school:

- i. VO will identify a Vidya Volunteer (VV) who will be placed in the AWC for assisting AWW in ECE work. The AWWs with relevant qualifications aptitude and willing to be trained and work till 4.30 pm will be also be considered as VV. The selection process will be done by the resource agencies identified by SERP/Director, WD&CW.
- ii. The identification, training, monitoring and payment of the Honorarium to the VV will be done by the VO/MS.
- iii. In case of AWCs with proper buildings, the pre-school activities will be conducted in the same building. Otherwise, the Village organizations will take the responsibility to shift the AWC to a convenient shelter by constructing the same. The necessary budget for the same will be provided by RD Department.
- iv. The pre-school activities will be managed only by the VOs. Staff of WD & CW Department shall only monitor the same.

4. The convergence proposed herein is in the best interest of the local community and all concerned shall promote the same so as to realize the aspirations of the SHG's and the objectives of ICDS. The AWW's and ASHA workers shall be encouraged to become the members of SHG's for effective partnership for realizing the common goal.

5. CEO SERP & Commissioner Women and Child welfare shall identify the list of habitations for these interventions immediately and put in place a process of consultation at the village level between the Anganwadi centers and the VOs and take steps to operationalise this convergence.

(BY ORDER AND IN THE NAME OF THE GOVERNOR OF ANDHRA PRADESH)

S. V. PRASAD
CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT

To

Spl. Chief Secretary to Govt., Department for Women, Children, Disabled & Senior Citizens, A.P. Secretariat
Prl. Secretary to Govt., Rural Development Department, A.P. Secretariat
All District Collectors and Magistrates

CEO, SERP, A.P. Hyderabad
Director, Women Development & Child Welfare Department, A.P. Hyderabad
Commissioner, Rural Development Department, A.P. Hyderabad
All Project Directors through CEO, SERP,
All DRDA's through CEO, SERP
All Project Director's, Women Development & Child Welfare through Director Women
Development & Child Welfare

Copy to:-

1. PS to Prl. Secretary to CM
2. PS to Chief Secretary
3. PS to Minister, Rural Development

//FORWARDED:: BY ORDER//

SECTION OFFICER